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Unity Of The Church

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It is important that we hear and if we hear our lives will be changed, taking down our own preconceived ideas and listening to what God is saying. There are many examples in the bible of people starting in unity but for whatever reason they didn't continue. A church can survive many things, but it cannot survive strife. The devils plan is to divide and conquer and he will do this by any means that it may take.

Matt 12:25-28 "And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: 26 And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? 27 And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges. 28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you." KJV

Jesus is teaching about the dividing of houses and cities and without being in unity the outcome will be they will not stand.

Psa 133:1-3 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! 2 It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; 3 As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore." KJV

This is an ideal situation, they are in unity as cooperating and not just for one. If we spend quality time with people we want to be in agreement with them, if not, it is not a pleasant time. God can speak blessing upon a cooperate group where there is unity. We desire to have God's blessings upon us all.

1 Cor 1:10 "But I urge and entreat you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in perfect harmony and full agreement in what you say, and that there be no dissensions or factions or divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in your common understanding and in your opinions and judgments." AMP

If everyone in the local church believed that they each had a right to their own beliefs or opinions would that tend to bring harmony or unity to that church? Believers have a part to play in the unity of the church, all must act as one, not individuals and become a team player. Be quick to deal with strife, it will destroy you and will destroy other people as well.

Gal 5:14-16 "For the whole Law [concerning human relationships] is complied with in the one precept, You shall love your neighbor as [you do] yourself. 15 But if you *bite and devour one another [in partisan strife], be careful that you [and your whole fellowship] are not consumed by one another. 16 But I say, walk and live [habitually] in the [Holy] Spirit [responsive to and controlled and guided by the Spirit]; then you will certainly not gratify the cravings and desires of the flesh (of human nature without God)" AMP

*bite as to wound the soul, vexed by adversity or words spoken against you, oppress stop growing, living out of a wounded spirit will have to be dealt with

This scripture is good for teaching love but has other messages as well. There is a progression in what happens by the way strife consumes the fellowship of believers, being selfish wanting to have their own way. The enemy is trying to get the church in strife but the believers are the ones responsible for the devouring of one another. Be controlled and guided by the Holy Spirit in order that the fleshly desires are not gratified. Outward wounds will heal up but the inner wounds will take time to heal up and must be dealt with.

1 Cor 3:9 "For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building." KJV

We are all part of Gods field and He will use us to cultivate for the purpose of bringing forth more fruit, through the teaching of the word of God.

God wants His people blessed because of the covenant that they have with Him.

Genesis 11:6-7 "And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. 7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." KJV

These people started in unity but as time went on they begin to have different thoughts and ideas, causing them to not continue with their original plan, so God changed and confounded their language, they were unable to understand each other

and went different ways. They could have accomplished anything they desired had they not gotten into strife.

It is important that believers stay in harmony and unity as they begin any new projects or building plans that they may have, it is really important that they stay in harmony and unity. When God gets ready to do something supernatural with a group of people they must be in unity with one another, saying the same things, supporting leadership not speaking against each other.

Joshua 6:1-2 "Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in. 2 And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour." KJV

The children of Israel had just crossed the Jordan and were getting ready to enter into the promised land. God had a supernatural way for the children to take the city of Jericho. They were told to march around the city, once a day for six days, not speaking to each other but on the seventh day they were to walk around the city seven times at which time the priests would blow the trumpets, when the trumpets were blown the people were to shout with a loud voice, everyone was instructed to do this, then the walls would fall down but they were to spare those who had helped them earlier, when the spies had checked out the land. God had told Joshua to see what was being done. "You will never see unless you first hear." We have to see victory on the inside before we ever see it on the outside.

Everyone has a responsibility to see that harmony and unity are carried out, there is no one exempt.

Eph 4:1-3 "I therefore, the prisoner for the Lord, appeal to and beg you to walk (lead a life) worthy of the [divine] calling to which you have been called [with behavior that is a credit to the summons to God's service, 2 Living as becomes you] with complete lowliness of mind (humility) and meekness (unselfishness, gentleness, mildness), with patience, bearing with one another and making allowances because you love one another. 3 Be eager and strive earnestly to guard and keep the harmony and oneness of [and produced by] the Spirit in the binding power of peace." AMP

There is a challenge made here for the believer, not as EGR Christians, which means "extra grace required". Our behavior should be to keep the harmony, making allowances for others and there may be work required to do this. The spirit produces peace and will not produce division.

Meditate the following scriptures, be like little children they forget quickly.

1 Cor 1:10 "But I urge and entreat you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in perfect harmony and full agreement in what you say, and that there be no dissensions or factions or divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in your common understanding and in your opinions and judgments." AMP

1 Cor 14:20 "Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men." KJV

We will grow into this love mentioned below, it is a progressive time causing us to deal with ideal harmony as it binds us to others. It is grown and developed, bringing about maturity, love learns to make allowances. The lessons may sometimes be painful but given time will win. We must have peace in our lives, let love act as an umpire in our hearts.

Col 3:14-15 "And above all these [put on] love and enfold yourselves with the bond of perfectness [which binds everything together completely in ideal harmony]. 15 And let the peace (soul harmony which comes) from Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds, in that peaceful state] to which as [members of Christ's] one body you were also called [to live]. And be thankful (appreciative), [giving praise to God always]." AMP

Give praise to God for all that He does, thanking Him for all our provisions and help us to do our part in keeping harmony.